

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
Tuesday, July 30, 2013
5:00 PM

Present: Joe VanDeurzen, Audrey Murphy, J.J. Tibbetts, MD, Don Murray

Excused: Harold Pfotenhauer, Patricia Bacelis-Leon

Staff Present: Judy Friederichs, John Paul

1. CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The group welcomed Brad Hopp, County Board Supervisor for District 5.

Supervisor Hopp introduced himself and described the area covered by his district. This is a new district – the majority of which used to be covered by Jack Krueger. Brad, his wife and daughter live in the district and he is the after-market sales leader for Hudson Sharp. He has had some contact with Judy and Dr. Tibbetts and looks forward to serving on the Board of Health.

2. APPROVAL / MODIFICATION OF THE AGENDA

To change the agenda to move #6 ahead of #5: Van Deurzen / Tibbetts

MOTION CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF May 28, 2013

Dr. Tibbetts asked that a "PhD" be added after Paul Schomer's name wherever it appears in the minutes.

Audrey asked that Joe VanDeurzen be added as "present" since he did attend the meeting.

To approve with corrections: Van Deurzen / No Second

MOTION CARRIED

4. ODOR COMPLAINTS / ORDINANCE

John Paul distributed odor complaint statistics since the last meeting (attached). Sanimax has received their second violation in the calendar year – their court date is during the week of August 7th. John stated that most complaints that have been coming in this year have been during regular office hours. “Method of Reporting” has been added to the complaint form to help track how people are contacting us. There has been an effort to encourage people to contact the Health Department by phone rather than by email. John said that the typical response time for a complaint is 38 to 45 minutes.

Audrey asked if the response time has improved from past years. John said that prior to this year, response time has not been tracked. Judy said that information about the after-hours answering service number has been communicated to the people who have been calling in most often so that they would know how to contact the department as quickly as possible.

Judy said that she and John attended the Human Services committee meeting on July 24th. There were people in attendance from the neighboring community as well as representatives from Sanimax and JBS Packerland. The result of the meeting was to have Sanimax representatives work with the Chamber of Commerce to see if they can work out a better solution to the problem. The committee will still consider decreasing the number of verified complaints needed for a citation from three to two.

Don asked if it was possible to quantify the intensity of odor when it is verified. John said that they have not been asked to do that to this point. Don said that the spirit of the ordinance was to protect residents in their homes. Since most of the complaints are coming from businesses, he wonders if the spirit of the ordinance is being followed.

Audrey asked where the ordinance stands as far as the proposal to decrease the number of verified complaints needed since Corporation Counsel has indicated that the more complaints there are, the better the chance a citation is upheld in court. Brad said that he would not be surprised if this issue isn't addressed at the next Human Services Committee meeting. There are several board members who feel that it needs to be addressed. He has personally done a lot of legwork on Sanimax in Green Bay as well as across the U.S. and Canada. He said that every single city that a Sanimax facility is located in is dealing with the same issue as we are. This is nothing new to Sanimax – they kick the can down the road as long as they can until people get sick of complaining. In regard to Don's question about the businesses – it's embarrassing for them to bring customers in to their facility when the stench is so bad. He feels that businesses have as much right to complain as anyone else. He feels there is enough support on the County Board to reduce the number of complaints from three to two. Brad went on to say that

the EPA has launched an investigation against Sanimax for the first time ever. That is an ongoing investigation and a report has not been filed yet – it usually takes a couple of months.

Don said that he has attended the meetings where Sanimax has detailed the investments they have made to address the problem. He asked if Brad felt they weren't following through on those plans. Brad said that he is sure they have invested some money, but they always have an excuse when something happens. If something goes down and they continue operating, that is an EPA violation.

Audrey said that there has been an odor problem for over 35 years. Brad said the problem now is that they are running a lot more product through the facility than they ever have. The technology is there to fix the problem, they just need to make the investment rather than nickel and diming it.

Audrey said that the board has always been pro-business and wants to work with Sanimax to solve the problem once and for all.

6. 2014 BUDGET PROPOSAL

Judy reviewed the levy changes with the board (attached). The biggest change is to change the professional staff to a salaried, exempt status which would bring them from 37.5 to 40 hours per week. This allows for more flexibility for after-hours response. Audrey asked if Judy thinks this will be accepted by the County Board. Judy said that this has been encouraged by the County Executive. Judy noted that there has been a significant decrease in indirect costs from 2013 to 2014.

Brad asked if the only reason for the increase in staff time is for flexibility in scheduling and reducing overtime. If overtime only runs around \$3,000 to \$4,000 we're not gaining much ground if eliminating overtime is costing \$75,000 in salary. Judy said that overtime has changed over the years depending on what's going on. Also, it doesn't give us a lot of hours but it helps with the shortage of staff without adding additional people. Brad asked if adding 2.5 hours to each individual person would be helpful in putting off adding additional staff. Judy said that it would definitely allow the department to put off adding staff for now. Brad said that it is easier for himself and other supervisors to approve if that is the case.

Dr. Tibbetts asked if these people are union or non-union. Judy said that they were represented by unions in the past but none are represented now. Dr. Tibbetts said that this would have spoken to the issue of staff working outside of regular office hours in conflict with their union contract.

Judy said that the increase in licensing revenue represents increased activity in the community.

Audrey asked if the department participates in HIV testing. Judy said that staff follow up on reports of positive HIV tests and partner notification. Audrey asked if most testing is done at the Aids Resource Center. Judy said that what the department does is follow-up after initial testing is done. Audrey asked if the grants for which the department is a fiscal agent are pass-through dollars and whether the department is paid for providing this service. Judy said yes to both questions.

MOTION: To approve the budget as presented. Van Deurzen / Tibbetts

MOTION CARRIED

5. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

None

7. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Judy said that there has been one case of Cyclosporiasis reported in Brown County. This is part of a multi-state outbreak with 9 states involved. There have been 8 cases reported in Wisconsin so far. This particular parasite is introduced through food or drink. The symptoms include diarrhea and can last weeks to months. Most people recover eventually but it can be treated with antibiotics. From 2008 to 2012 the entire state only reported about 7 cases. The source hasn't been determined yet but the CDC suspects that the outbreak is on the decline and that people who are currently ill were exposed at some point in the past. Brad asked if the person in our area was infected locally or while travelling. Judy said that has not yet been determined.

There have been 2 cases of salmonella reported locally. This is also part of a multi-state outbreak. The source of the infection has not yet been determined.

There has been 1 case of Legionellosis reported in Brown County. This case is connected to an outbreak of about 20 cases in Milwaukee. Audrey asked if this is what has been called Legionnaires' disease. Judy said that it is and that has been linked in the past to water sources such as cooling towers and fountains.

One dead bird from Brown County has tested positive for West Nile Virus. This positive test indicates that the virus exists in our area and the people should be particularly vigilant about protecting themselves from mosquito

bites. Ill or dead birds can still be reported to the Dead Bird Hotline but no more lab testing will be done.

Judy distributed the provisional data through the month of June for reportable communicable diseases. She indicated that the "Other Category" seems to indicate 4 cases of Cyclosporiasis, which is not accurate because there are other miscellaneous diseases in that same category. There has only been 1 case.

Audrey mentioned the high rate of sexually transmitted infections. Judy said that she would like Andrea Dorn to do a presentation at a future meeting. She is one of our newer nurses who works exclusively with STIs and has been very aggressive in her approach and has had a lot of success in making sure people are treated and partners are contacted. Chua Xiong is also working on getting a doctor from Milwaukee to come in and meet with ER doctors regarding a program that provides medication for partners of an identified STI patient in a confidential manner. Dr. Tibbetts said that many doctors struggle with the program because of the risk of the person having an adverse reaction to the treatment. He said that doctors at NEW Community Clinic are not covered by their liability insurance to provide this service for someone who is not seen personally.

Judy said that the position posting for the Environmental Manager vacancy closed last Friday. Postings are now in place for the Nurse Manager and Office Manager vacancies. Chrystal Woller has accepted the Director position at the De Pere Health Department, hence the Nurse Manager vacancy.

The next step in the strategic planning process is to meet with stakeholders / community partners to go through a process similar to what was done at the last Board of Health meeting. Judy distributed the revised mission and values (attached) that the staff have come up with during this process.

Judy indicated that she has been approached by the Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association asking that the department to employ a grant-funded regional "Navigator" as part of the Affordable Health Care Law. This person would provide outreach and public education related to health care exchanges. She indicated that Human Services has recently added 11 enrollment specialists for the same regional area to handle the increased volume of enrollees. We won't know until August whether this agency will receive the grant in question.

Brad Hopp said that the 11 people added at Human Services are for people who have already enrolled in the program. These are state/federally funded positions. Judy said that the Navigator's role would be helping the public understand the program.

Brad said that the President's administration has already approached numerous public and private organizations including the NFL and NBA to provide this service and all have declined the invitation. Last month there was a pitch to the National Librarians' Association to bring public libraries into the mix to get this done, but a decision by the Library Association has not been made yet. He said that there are a number of supervisors, including himself, that will fight this tooth and nail – he wants no part of it. There are several reasons including that the feds don't even know how this is going to work so there is some expectation that there could be a great deal of liability if information is handed out that turns out to be wrong. Basically it comes down to we wouldn't touch it with a 10-foot pole. And why should we pay at the local level and expend resources – because grant money is not going to cover what it's going to cost to set up a platform for a program that's a national program. He said that he doesn't see how this would ever pass the County Board. Audrey said that, in essence, they are trying to sell this program. Brad agreed and said they are trying to involve local governments to do that. They tried with private industry and private industry said no, it's too much of a hot topic. As we get closer it's going to engage more anger and you're going to see people protesting and everything else. They don't want anybody protesting at a Packer game against the Affordable Care Act – it's football. Quite honestly, he doesn't want to see anybody protesting any of our county businesses even if it's a very polite protest. We don't need 8 – 10 people standing outside with picket signs when people are coming in here for very vital services that sometimes are very personal. And you don't want news cameras and everything else taking pictures of people walking into the public health building. It won't pass – it's going to be fought tooth and nail.

Judy said that she believes the outreach will be out in the community – not hear at the Health Department. Brad said this would be that the Brown County department of health is engaged in pushing Obamacare or the Affordable Care Act, and that people aren't going to go down picketing on the corner of Broadway and Main, they're going to come to the Brown County health offices. He has no problem with hearing what it's about – the 11 positions that were approved, they had no choice. If this goes through, come hell or high water, those positions will be needed to handle the volume of new cases. Two other things have come up before the County Board in regard to the Affordable Care Act and both of them were easily defeated by more than a 2/3 majority vote. One was in regard to Medicare funding in the Affordable Care Act and that one was voted down substantially; then there was another one. Based on those precedents, he doesn't see anyone being willing to touch this in any way, shape or form.

Judy said, just to clarify, like any other grant we have to assure that it will cover our expenses. We wouldn't even be going through with this if it wasn't going to fully cover our expenses – that is how it is with any grant. Most

resolutions will be worded such that, when the grant goes away, so do the positions. In fact, the person in the department who is the most knowledgeable in this area has been doing this in relation to a number of other grants for years – most recently for breast and cervical cancer screening. Brad said this will be an even bigger issue than just money. Even if the position was fully funded, there are going to be people who, at their core are opposed to anything to do with the Affordable Care Act, and he is one of them. Whether the position is 100% funded or whatever, he will oppose it no matter what. His constituents are very well informed that he will oppose anything to do with the Affordable Care Act – it's just a philosophical issue that could be debated all night. It will be interesting to see what happens but he does not think that anything to do with education or the utilization of county staff or county facilities will pass the County Board. Judy said that we will probably know in the next couple of weeks what will happen. She would like to have staff come to the September meeting to talk about the Affordable Care Act whether or not this grant goes through. Staff work with people on a number of issues regarding lack of access to health insurance. Audrey said that it might be helpful because, the bill was unfortunately passed – it's too complicated and none of the Congressmen read it. The whole thing was just a disaster, she thinks and it's unfortunate because maybe a small part of it is good. The part about pre-existing disease should be kept but the rest should be thrown aside and dealt with. And if you're going to add 30 million people, it's going to cost an incredible amount of money. You can't add 30 million to an existing roll and not expect it to cost money. Audrey said that at the Health Department, you want people to have health care but in her mind, the Affordable Care Act isn't the way to do it. Sooner or later it might even just fall on its face because of the weight of it. Don said he doesn't think so because they had that election where people should have known what was coming, but they don't. So much misinformation on both sides. Brad said that the current Rasmussen and Pew polls for the first time, 54% and 53% of people say that it should be repealed. That's the first time that it broke the 50% mark – so as it gets closer, people are jumping ship. So, at the next mid-term election you could see the house and senate flip and it could be repealed. But as it stands right now, it's here. Dr. Tibbetts said that it's not completely here because now the IRS wants to withdraw and the unions want to get out of it. There are all of these select groups that represent a large segment of the populace who now want to be exempt.

Judy said, as the Health Department, one of our essential services is access to healthcare. So it's very appropriate for us to be supporting our clients and getting them access to the program. Don said it's, in a nutshell, a re-distribution of who pays the cost. Dr. Tibbetts said that he has discussed this with Bonnie Kuhr and they feel that it is most likely going to be marketed to the young group. They have a \$2,000 deductible and are being asked to pay \$300 per month for the policy or they can pay a \$95 fine for not participating.

Audrey said the only way this is going to work is to get the young people to participate.

Judy distributed the latest CHIP brochure (attached). This is a supplement to a larger publication that described the assessment project. This document explains what is being done in each area. One of the biggest issues is expanding dental care to more adults. Another area of focus is facilitating more healthy food choices for people living in poverty; such as making farmers' markets more accessible and encouraging more healthy donations to food pantries. A final area of focus is the issue of binge drinking and drinking & driving. The group working on the alcohol issue is a large one and continues to expand.

Judy distributed the 2012 annual report.

8. ALL OTHER BUSINESS AUTHORIZED BY LAW

None

9. ADJOURNMENT / NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 10th at 5:00 pm.

MOTION: To adjourn at 6:30 pm Hopp / Tibbetts

MOTION CARRIED